

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

### Claim Amendment Summary

#### **Claims pending**

- Before this Amendment: Claims 1-23.
- After this Amendment: Claims 1, 3-8, 10-16, and 18-23.

**Canceled or Withdrawn claims:** 2, 9 and 17.

**Amended claims:** 1, 8, and 16.

**New claims:** none .

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### Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable modules comprising:

a file locator configured to locate an executable image on a computer media;

a file-format recognizer configured to recognize the file format of the executable image from amongst a database of multiple file format definitions, wherein the database is extensible so that additional file format definitions may be added to the database of multiple file format definitions;

a memory-mapper configured to open the executable image from the computer media and read it into a computer memory;

an importer configured to find a list of executable image names to load;

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1 an exporter configured to build a representation of program modules that an  
2 executable image exports;

3 a binder configured to link multiple executable images together, such  
4 images being those of the list of executable image names.

5  
6 **2. (CANCELED)**

7  
8 **3. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the  
9 importer is further configured to direct the loading of multiple executable images  
10 of the list of executable image names to load

11  
12 **4. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the  
13 file-format recognizer is further configured to select one or more of a group of  
14 available pluggable sub-loaders is capable of loading the recognized file format of  
15 the executable image.

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17 **5. (ORIGINAL)** A loader comprising a computer-readable  
18 medium as recited in claim 1.

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1           6.     (ORIGINAL)     An operating system comprising a computer-  
2 readable medium as recited in claim 1.

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4           7.     (ORIGINAL)     A computer comprising a computer-readable  
5 medium as recited in claim 1.

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7           8.     (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium  
8 having computer-executable modules comprising:

9           a searcher configured to search a computer media for an executable image  
10 for loading;

11           a format recognizer configured to the format of the executable image;

12           a memory-mapper configured to load and map the executable image into  
13 memory based upon the format of the executable image;

14           a sub-loader configured to examine a data structure of the executable image  
15 to determine whether to load additional images;

16           a database of multiple executable-image formats which is the basis for  
17 which the recognizer recognizes the format of executable image and for which the  
18 memory-mapper varies how it loads and maps the executable image into memory,  
19 wherein the database is extensible so that additional executable-image formats  
20 may be recognized by the recognizer and loaded and mapped by the memory-  
21 mapper.

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23           9.     (CANCELED)  
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1           **10. (ORIGINAL)**   A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein one or  
2 more modules the medium are configured to be replaced with a replacement  
3 module without recompilation of one or more modules.

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5           **11. (ORIGINAL)**   A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the  
6 memory-mapper is further configured to convert the executable image before  
7 mapping it into the memory.

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9           **12. (ORIGINAL)**   A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the  
10 memory-mapper is further configured to decrypt the executable image before  
11 mapping it into the memory.

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13           **13. (ORIGINAL)**   A loader comprising a computer-readable  
14 medium as recited in claim 8.

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16           **14. (ORIGINAL)**   An operating system comprising a computer-  
17 readable medium as recited in claim 8.

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19           **15. (ORIGINAL)**   A computer comprising a computer-readable  
20 medium as recited in claim 8.

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2 16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for facilitating loading  
3 to one or more executable images a varying formats, the method comprising:

4 locating an executable image on a computer media;

5 investigating information related to the executable image, thereby  
6 identifying the format of the executable image, wherein during the investigating,  
7 an extensible database of executable-image formats is accessed;

8 based upon the identified format of the image, initiating a loader associated  
9 with that identified format;

10 with that loader, loading the executable image into a computer memory.

11  
12 17. (CANCELED)

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14 18. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein  
15 headers of the image contains the information related to the executable image for  
16 the investigating.

17  
18 19. (ORIGINAL) A computer-readable medium having computer-  
19 executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method  
20 as recited in claim 16.

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22 20. (ORIGINAL) A computer comprising one or more computer-  
23 readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by  
24 the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 16.  
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1           21. (ORIGINAL)    A computer-readable medium having  
2 modularized computer-executable modularized sets of instructions that, when  
3 executed by the computer, load one or more executable images into a computer  
4 memory, such an image having one or more formats defined by an extensible  
5 database of executable-image formats.

6  
7           22. (ORIGINAL)    A medium as recited in claim 21, wherein the  
8 modularized sets of instructions are isolated with clean interfaces.

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10          23. (ORIGINAL)    An operating system comprising a medium as  
11 recited in claim 21.

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